The Congregational Way

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October, 1952

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The Congregational Way

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CALL TO WORSHIP

Archie N. Hook

Minister and Superintendent

We worship frequently, many of us regularly. At least we go to church on Sunday morning and follow the order of service. It is a good habit but the majority of Christians admit readily that on most Sundays it is not a very vital experience. Why? Let's throw our questions at the minister first—he is accustomed to getting them. Is it because of a quickly prepared and poorly delivered sermon, in which there is no real meat or inspiration? Perhaps it is the choir. Maybe they are letting down in their practice or a favored few are being featured in special numbers. Is the music becoming a show instead of a background for the entire service? The difficulty may be with the ushers, who somehow gave us a bad start right at the door. Some of you have been reading or thinking ahead and know that if we are going to get at the root of ineffective worship we must take a look at the people in the pews. Is it true that many of the people at church on Sunday morning are there primarily because they believe that church attendance is a good habit? When that is so, the answers to all our other questions are easy.

Regardless of where the fault is, and it is seldom only in one place, let us reassert the imperativeness of a vital worship experience, both corporate and private. Professing Christians experience the ecstasy of their faith only when they KNOW the presence of God. A service of worship should, above all else, assist in making possible this experience. It is good to sing praises—to express real thankfulness. All worship will be blocked unless sincere confession is made. Prayer is the best known channel to the presence of God—audible or silent, public or private, but always a "soul's sincere desire." The most amazing phenomena of worship is that the same service can bring to some comfort—peace; to others joy—exhaltation; to others a summons—challenge; and to all a convincing sense of the reality of God.

The latest statistics indicate an all time high in church membership and church attendance. No records or tabulation can be made of what happens in a vital service of worship, but an all time high will be reached in Christendom when God becomes a known presence in all worship.

A GREAT WORK STARTS

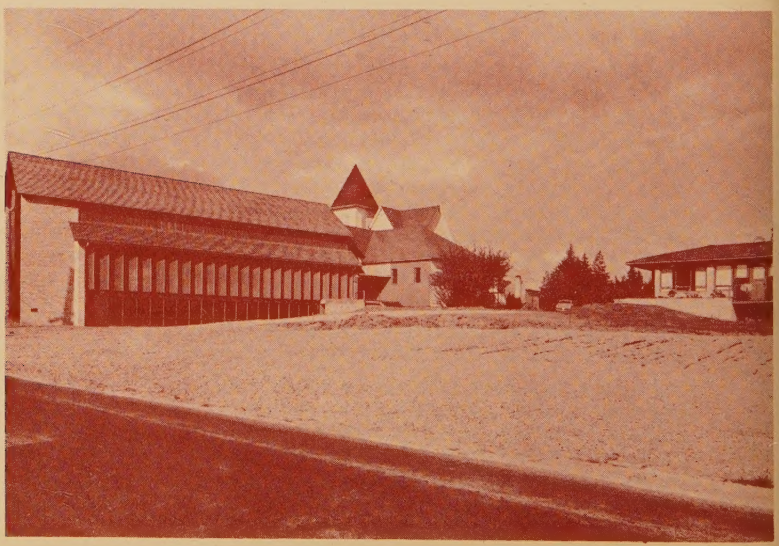
The Community Church at Bellevue was built in 1900. For many years it served the community well, but with the growth of the area it soon became apparent that the facilities were not adequate for the opportunity. The decision was made to build a new church, and the building fund campaign was begun in May 1951. The ground breaking service on March 8, 1952 was a signal of action for the first service in the new sanctuary was on September 14, 1952. The dedication service will be on November 23, and many of the fellowship will rejoice with the members of Community church in the work that has been accomplished.

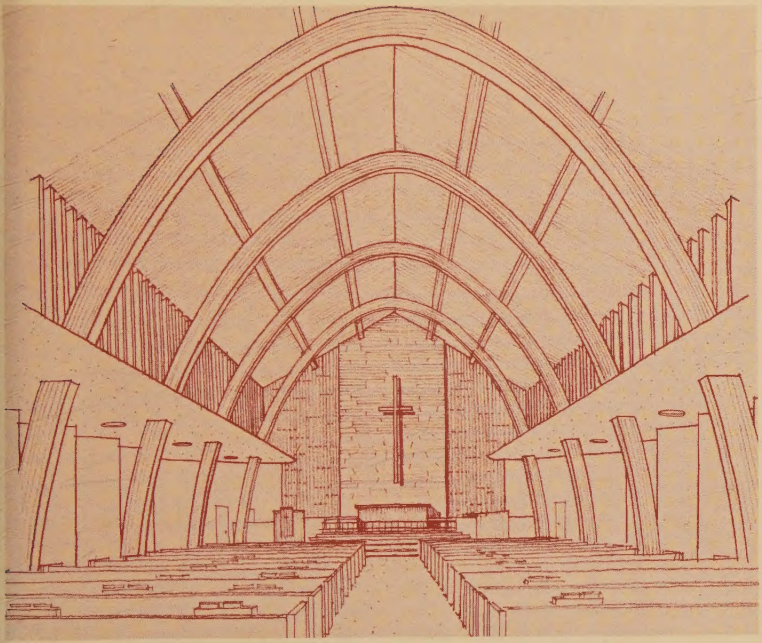
The seating capacity of the sanctuary is approximately 400. The first unit consists of the sanctuary and basement. The next unit to be constructed will be the administrative wing and the third unit will be the youth center and educational development with a small informal chapel. The total cost of all three units will be approximately $460,000. The cost of the first unit was less than $75,000.

The pictures show the new unit as it joins the old church. The fellowship hall of the old church serves as a narthex to the new sanctuary.

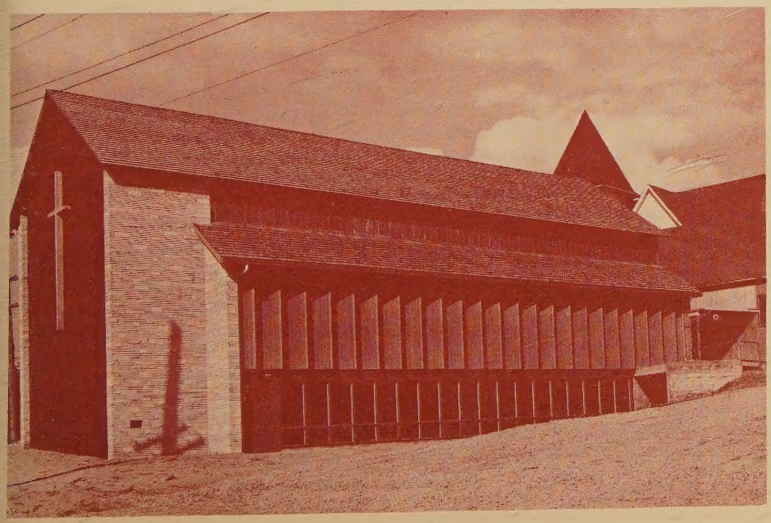
Features of the sanctuary are that it is very simply done yet worshipful. As one worships there is no visible evidence of windows, yet the side luvers sheds light forward toward the chancel. In the day time there is no need for artificial light. There are no visible lighting fixtures, all lights are concealed with both direct and indirect lighting. The pews and the flooring are oak.

Rev. Cleo P. Strawmyer has served as minister of the church since 1946, and the parish has grown under his leadership.





BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON



News of the Churches

PESHASTIN . . .

The Rev. Richard England reports a very good Vacation Church School for their church with an enrollment of 45. The closing program featured an exhibit of Bibles and the work of the American Bible Society in distributing the Scriptures in many languages. Over 100 parents and friends attended the program and contributed to this work.

Improvements are underway on the parsonage including a paint job on the exterior and the installation of a new automatic oil burning furnace in the basement.

ABERDEEN . . .

The Rev. E. Forrest Byers reports that repairs are being made on the main entrance of the Aberdeen church. Changes in the chancel are also being effected. New activities this fall include a senior and adult department in the church school, and a pastor's class to prepare young people for church membership.

KEYSTONE . . .

Plans for the fall at Keystone Church, reported by Rev. Everett Hunt, include three major emphases: vital worship, genuine Christian fellowship, and sharing through Our Christian World Mission. In order to make these emphases church-wide a four-fold retreat is being held during September. The Youth Retreat was the first week; the Women's Retreat, the second week; the Men's Retreat, the third week; and the All-Church Retreat, the fourth week.

COLFAX . . .

Rev. Robert Satterfield began his responsibilities as minister of this church on September 1. Mr. Satterfield served the church at Odessa prior to this change.

FAIRMOUNT FEDERATED . . .

The Rev. Robert Owen reports that the Fairmount Church in West Seattle is busy repainting a part of its church school quarters, to put the final touches on a program of remodeling and redecorating which, during the past year, has extended throughout its building. The sanctuary was completely renovated, with the construction of a new chancel. Altar, pulpit and lectern were designed and executed by the men of the church. Brass altar furnishings have been the gift of members of the congregation. A Wurlitzer Organ, installed over a year ago, has been almost completely subscribed through memorial gifts of members and friends.

Members of the church boards and auxiliary organizations met for a day-long retreat on September 6th to lay plans for the coming year.

STEILACOOM . . .

Rev. George Schubert reports that a memorial fireplace in memory of Rev. Herbert West has been completed at the Oberlin church.

Additional facilities have also been added to the building with the work being done by volunteer labor. The church is looking forward to its centennial celebration next year.

SEATTLE, PLYMOUTH . . .

Dr. Dwight L. Cart has submitted his resignation as minister of Plymouth Church. He will go on December 1 to be the minister of the First Congregational Church, Winchester, Mass.

Plymouth Church is being host this fall to two activities sponsored by the Council of Churches—the annual Leadership Training School, and an Audio Visual Workshop.

ASCO . . .

The Rev. Paul Sutley reports the following activities completed—a successful Every Member Canvass, the organization of a Board of Deacons and Deaconesses, as well as a Music Committee, and the establishment of a Church Memorial Fund.

In process is a reorganization of the church building committee, with negotiations in process for the purchase of property adjacent to the proposed site for the new church.

During August there was an overnight planning conference for the Pilgrim Fellowship and an all day planning conference for church school teachers held early in September.

PRIEST RIVER, IDAHO . . .

William M. Edwards

The Rev. William M. Edwards arrived in Priest River in July to assume his responsibilities as minister of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards come into our conference fellowship from pastorates in Vermont. Mr. Edwards received his theological training at Oberlin, and has been active in junior high camp work as well as having experience in radio. Mrs. Edwards is trained in preschool education. We look forward to their leadership and welcome them into our conference.

DEER PARK . . .

Plans for the dedication of the new parsonage at Deer Park are being completed. The community participated in the project to a sum approaching $6,000 which resulted from an auction.

Rev. George Snyder, formerly of Ohio, arrived in July to assume the pastorate of this church.

SEATTLE, COLUMBIA . . .

Rev. B. C. Herrick reports plans for the Columbia church weekend retreat on October 17th through the 19th. The retreat will begin with a family dinner and showing of the movie, "More for Peace." Following this, the officers and friends of the church will meet for Saturday afternoon and evening to make plans for a long time program, on the basis of the next ten years. Dr. Archie Hook, Conference Minister, will be present for Saturday afternoon and on Sunday the 19th to give the sermon.

SUQUAMISH . . .

Rev. Edward Ohrenstein reports that it is nothing less than amazing what shiny new doors will do to make a church come to life.Mr. L. O. Rettig and a crew of men replaced the old doors of the Community Church and painted the trim. Now passersby are drawn to the church by the attractive door.

Regular Bible study has been maintained all through the summer, and study of the new Revised Standard Version is the plan for the fall and winter months.

TACOMA, PLYMOUTH . . .

Rev. Orville Shenefelt happily reports some building improvements at Plymouth. Remodeling in the church has given him a nice office, and a coat of paint has been applied to the parsonage. Both carpenter work and painting were done by volunteer work.

RITZVILLE, ZION . . .

R. W. Rieger

The Rev. R. W. Rieger, new minister at the Zion church reports a special visitation program in their parish, and plans for a special mission festival early this fall.

Mr. Rieger and his family have come to Ritzville from South Dakota where they were serving a Congregational parish. We welcome them to our fellowship and look forward to their leadership.

CHENEY . . .

The Rev. Fred W. Field reports that the Federated Church has raised $3500 to renovate the large pipe organ in the Methodist church building. A new altar in the Congregational building has been recently dedicated in memory of Mr. Paul Rozell, and the congregation is preparing to entertain the Eastern Washington Northern Idaho Association in October.

KIRKLAND . . .

Plans adopted by the Church Council for this fall include the organization of a young married couples club; the organization of a Husanwif Club for older married couples; a teacher training course for church school teachers; a Pilgrim Fellowship club for 7th graders and the organization of a Youth-Parent Cabinet to make overall youth plans and coordinate all youth activities and achieve better understanding among all ages of youth.

The Council has further endorsed plans of the minister, Rev. Ivan R. Smith, to have a Family Fellowship Night on Sunday evening once every second month, with the first scheduled October 26.

SEATTLE, FAUNTLEROY . . .

The annual all church retreat was held at the Seabeck conference grounds the weekend of September 5—7, with a good group attending. The various boards and committees of the church presented preliminary program plans to those present for suggestions, and a final drafting. Rev. A. M. Lusk reports that all groups in the church are working out techniques to make their work more effective and interesting, as they struggle with the challenges and opportunities of a new church.

WHITE SALMON . . .

Rev. James O. Duffey reports a special series of inspirational meetings to be held the latter part of September; also the desire of the congregation to introduce more visual aids as a part of the monthly meetings. Fall plans also include an Every Member Canvass to be conducted by Mr. LeRoy Eide.

ODESSA, FIRST . . .

The Rev. F. William Westwood began his responsibilities as minister of this parish on September 15. Mr. Westwood was formerly of Spokane and minister of the Hillyard church.

PRUITTS SAIL FOR PHILIPPINES

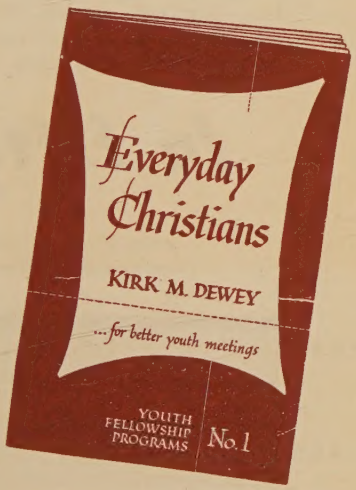
On September 28 the President ...lson when she sails from San ...ancisco will carry three passen... ...rs of goodwill from the Washington ...nference to the Philippines. Paul ...d Mary Margaret Pruitt and daugh... Janice who have faithfully serv... the churches of Anacortes, Sum... t Park and Guemes Island, are ...ginning their term as missionaries ...der The American Board on Davao ...land. They go in the spirit so ably ...pressed by Paul.

"To whom much has been given— ...ich will be required." As we ...ave for the Philippines, these ...rds of Jesus express our feelings ...obably better than any others. We ...ve been given much. As citizens ... America, we have enjoyed an ...viable position in the world e... ...nomy. Our heritage in spiritual ...d moral values has been tremend... ...s. Family, church, school, and ...her social institutions have chal... ...nged and aided us in abundant ...fe. We are debtors. Much has been ...ven us.

We are going to the Philippines, ...wever, less as a matter of obliga... ...on, and more because it is a way ...r us to express our gratefulness. ...hat is required? We feel it is freely ...aring what we have received. It ... the giving of life's energy and ...sources where there is especially ...reat need.

The gift we share is that of ...ternal truth and an eternal Lord. It ... the sharing of His good news ...at excites us to this Christian ...dventure. The Christ who has made ...fe abundant for us, we wish to ...hare, that other, too, might be ...lessed. We look forward with the ...tmost joy to the coming years. It ...ay still be only a small way to ...xpress our gratefulness, but it is ...ne way, through God, we have ...hosen. And we are confident He ...ill bless us, and hopefully, the ...eople we serve. For this cause we covet the prayers and support of our many friends of the Washington Conference.

Those who wish to receive the monthly newsletter from the Pruitts may get on their mailing list by addressing them as follows: Rev. and Mrs. Paul F. Pruitt, Davao Island, Philippine Islands.



NEW YOUTH MATERIALS

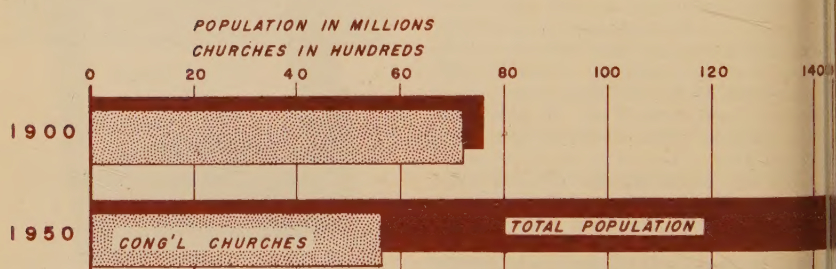
Everyday Christians is the first of a series of program booklets to be issued for youth fellowships. The booklet presents materials and suggestions for discussion, worship and activities. Each book will contain fifteen programs, and will cost $1. This material is prepared for the young people and published by The Pilgrim Press. Kirk Dewey, the writer of the first booklet, is one of the ministers of the First Congregational Church, Billings, Montana. Order copies now, so that your youth group can get off to a good start.

Emergency . . . Responsibility

. . . Opportunity

The future vitality and witness of our fellowship depend on our ability to respond to the growth and movement of the American people with a vigorous program for the establishing of new churches and the re-establishing and re-equipping of existing churches.

In fifty years . . .



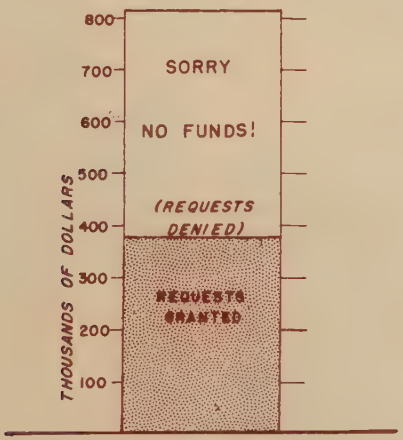
. . . the population of the U.S.A. has doubled, while our churches are fe by more than a fifth.

In 1900 there was one Congregational or Christian church for every 10,(people. In 1950 there were 26,500 people for every Congregational Chris church.

The Christian community ought always to be willing to make ventures and run great risks for its faith. An effective program of church extension is impossible without substantial resources for church building. And so, the delegates to the General Council meeting in Claremont, California, voted after much consideration that we should meet the emergency. The resour of the present biennium will geared toward the raising of $ 500,000 to be used for the dema being made upon the Church Bu ing Fund. This is a major task the denomination and the w coast will greatly benefit fi these efforts. The Columbia Ri Basin project is regarded as Number One Rural High Potent

The goal accepted by the Directors for the Washington Conference $144,000, which represents enty per cent of our churches me expense, exclusive of building nds, and benevolent giving during 51. Goals for local church are ggested on the same basis. The mpaign in our conference is being ganized and directed by a committe of three—Dean Edward H. Lauer, attle, chairman, Rev. Carl Calun, Bellingham, and Mrs. Arthur rgan, Walla Walla. Dr. Stanley U. rth is the Director of the Pacific ast area. Dr. Albert D. Stauffacher general director of the campaign.

Time was when the Building Society's revolving fund seemed quite adequate. Other urgent world needs gained the attention of the churches. We built up no adequate backlog. The great population shifts means there must be more adequate capital resources to be shared cooperatively by our great democratic fellowship of churches. We must recover the missionary spirit that organized the homeland societies. If we are to continue to export dollars to the younger churches overseas, we must have exporting churches gathering in these dollars for export.



BUILDING FUNDS ALLOCATED AND REQUESTS DENIED, JUNE—DEC., 1951

New needs require new devotion, new opportunities warrant vast new investments.

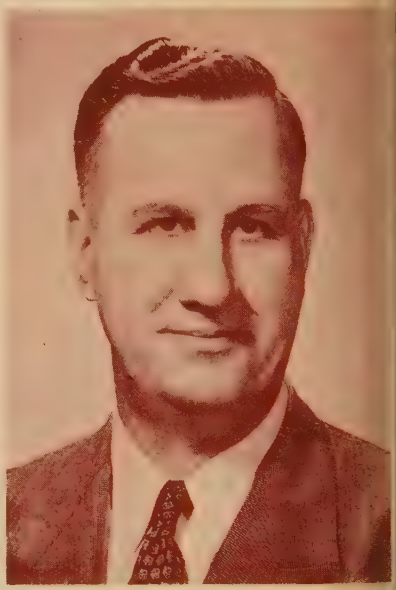
A hundred years ago we were missionary minded. We were keen for organizing new churches and housing them suitably. Our opportunity now is more than ten times as great. Are we still missionary minded? Do we still want the Church to follow the people?

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Using the program theme, "A Living Witness for Christ" the various Associations of the fellowship will meet in October. These meetings provide opportunities of sharing plans for the fall and winter, reports from summer conferences and meetings, and inspiration from special guests.

The team of leadership this fall will feature Dean Edward H. Lauer, Moderator of the Conference, and Dr. Nelson Dreier of The Missions Council. Members of the Conference Staff and the presidents of the Laymen's and Women's Fellowship will share in the program.

Edward H. Lauer



Nelson Dreier

Places of Meeting

October 7-8	**Eastern Washington Northern Idaho, Cheney**
October 10	**Yakima Association; Toppenish**
October 12	**Tacoma Association, First Church, Tacoma**
October 14	**Seattle Association Kirkland**
October 15	**Northwestern Association; Arlington**
October 17	**Columbia River Association; Hockinson**

The Word of Life in Living Language

September 30, 1952—A Religious Event of Great Significance

Through the ages, God's word has been brought to men in the language of their times. With the passing centuries, errors and inaccuracies have become disturbingly evident in our most widely used English translation—the King James Bible. Many such faults were corrected in the English Revised Version of 1881 and 1885, and the American Standard Version of 1901; but these literal, word-for-word translations sacrificed much of the beauty and power of the earlier version.

The need continued for an English translation of the Bible that would combine accuracy with the simplicity, directness, and spiritual power of the King James Version; a Bible translated in the light of the many remarkable archaeological discoveries of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries; a Bible written in language direct and clear and meaningful to people today. The Revised Standard Version of the Bible was conceived to fill that need, and be available on September 30, 1952. A committee of fifteen scholars have worked since 1930 on this version, and they make the following statement concerning their work:

"The Revised Standard Version is not a new translation in the language of today. It is not a paraphrase which aims at striking idioms. It is a revision which seeks to preserve all that is best in the English Bible as it has been known and used through the years. It is intended for use in public and private worship, not merely reading and instruction. We have resisted the temptation to use phrases that are merely current usage, and have sought to put the message of the Bible in simple, enduring words that are worthy to stand in the great Tyndale-King James tradition.

"The Bible is more than a historical document to be preserved. And it is more than a classic of English literature to be cherished and admired. It is a record of God's dealing with men, of God's revelation of Himself and His will. It records the life and work of Him in whom the Word of God became flesh and dwelt among men . . It is our hope and earnest prayer that this Version may be used by God to speak to men in these momentous times, and to help them to understand and believe and obey His Word."

THE WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. W. H. Harris

The First Congregational Church of Yakima entertains the semi-annual meeting of the Women's Fellowship on September 17 and 18. The program has been streamlined so that members can attend the full conference and be away from home only one night. The program will begin with luncheon on Wednesday, September 17 and adjourn on Thursday afternoon.

The program has been planned with a balance of information, inspiration, and suggestions for the working year. The theme of the program is "Building With Love and Gratitude." This theme embodies the idea of joyous service and impelling growth, and will be strengthened with the use of the theme hymn, "We Thank Thee, Lord, Thy Paths of Service Lead."

Dr. Wade L. Carter, minister of the church in Vancouver, will be guest speaker for the conference. His subjects being "Explosive Africa—North and South" and "Revolution and Christianity in Angola and South Africa." The foreign study theme will also be emphasized when Mrs. Alvin Miller reviews "Cry the Beloved Country." Mrs. Archie H. Hook will lead the devotional services, and the various secretaries will present plans for the fall and winter. Mrs. H. F. Kirk of Spokane was general chairman of the meeting.

Women's Camp

A special word of congratulation goes to Mrs. Miriam Naundorf and her committee for the wonderful work they did in planning and carrying through the Women's Camp at N-Sid-Sen this summer. Miss Margaret Hargrove, National Secretary, was one of the leaders, as well as members of the Women's Board; Mrs. Arthur Ford, Miss Conah Mae Ellis, and Rev. Frank Sturtevant.

Wade L. Carter

Mrs. E. R. Madson assisted with the housing arrangements and others serving on the committee included Mrs. Hoefel, Mrs. Townsend, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Mott, Mrs. Nohel, Mrs. Cannon, and Miss Cassill, the area directors Mrs. Shanks, Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. Clausen. Mrs. Vera Garber of Kellogg was in charge of the guest day program which included a book review by Mrs. Harry Davenport and a presentation by Rev. Thomas McQueen. The attendance throughout the week was good and we look forward to another summer at N-Sid-Sen.

Foret Representatives

Paul Van Horn

Washington Conference was epresentated at the Western s' School at LaForet, Colo- having the second largest tion. Franklin C. Forrester mond Beach, Ralph K. Ander- Ralston, Edwin E. Huber of Mrs. Ellen P. Bradley of Mon- ul B. Van Horn of Carnation, llard Hall of Newport availed lves of the scholarships to them and were glad that d. Each pronounced it an ex- e that they would not have and one worth at least an- full years of post graduate This year it was more than estern Pastors school as it t the men from the east as Wilhelm Pauck who has just alled to the chair of Historical gy at Union Seminary and ehrli of Eden Seminary headed standing faculty.

Washington was not only well represented in numbers, California being the only state having a larger number, but it also made itself known in other ways. Rev. Willard Hall becoming the poet lauerate of the school; Franklin Forrester made an alabaster lamp that took first place; Paul Van Horn also in the hobby work in alabaster took two prizes; while Mrs. Bradley one of the two women pastors present won herself the name of "General."

The school was held in the beautiful camp in the Black Forrest outside of Colorado Springs and is conducted by the denomination to bring to a limited number the best in modern scholarship in the church and theological fields. Only a certain number are alloted to each conference and no man can return for five years. Those who went are unanimous in saying "If next year you are offered the chance to go be sure and take it for you will never forget it."

Laymen's Fellowship

Fred Hockert

One of the days that is growing in importance is that of LAYMEN'S SUNDAY which this year is October 19th. More and more churches are putting aside that Sunday as a day in which the growing place of the laymen is emphasized.

Under the leadership of the United Churchmen the Men and Missions movement got underway several years ago. Many denominations have used it. This also comes in the fall, so that this year the specific "Men and Missions" emphasis and the more general "Laymen's Sunday" are being combined in the week of October 12 to 19. Churches are urged to use it bringing it to a culmination in the morning service on the 19th.

To that end we suggest:

(1) Dramatizing the place of the Laymen by having them take over the leadership of the morning service. Get out the laymen for this service in large numbers. Surprise the women by having a church full of men.

(2) During the week of October 12 to 19 have a meeting of the Laymen's Fellowship with the emphasis on "Men and Missions" and "The Place of the Laymen in the Church." This years motion picture on Africa which portrays the social struggle going on there would make an excellent program if followed by open discussion. This can be secured from the Audio Visual Center, Seattle.

(3) If you do not have a Laymen's Fellowship this would be an excellent time to start one with a meeting of the men and talks by men from various fellowships on "What the Laymen's Fellowship can Mean to your Church and the Kingdom of God."

Start now to plan for the week of October 12th to 19th. Make Laymen's Sunday, October 19th a Big Day in your church.

WORKSHOPS FOR CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Christian Education Committee is sponsoring in September a number of area workshops for church school teachers. The content of the meetings will center on the place of The Bible in the church school curriculum, and will give significance to the Revised Standard Version of the Old Testament to be released on September 30. There will also be opportunity for previewing the fall quarter's materials of the Pilgrim Series curriculum which is on "The Book of Books." Members of the committee will provide leadership for these sessions which will be held as follows:

September 15, Fairmount Federated Church, Seattle; September 19, First Congregational Church, Tacoma; September 21, First Congregational Church, Yakima; September 22, First Congregational Church, Walla Walla; September 24, Westminster Congregational Church, Spokane; September 25, Hope Congregational Church, Newport; September 26, First Congregational Church, Odessa.

We Needed Teachers

Carolyn Goddard

ur church school is growing
. Getting an adequate teaching
f is a real problem. The Board
hristian Education began think-
about this problem in February,
this is what happened.
he church school teachers co-
rated by inviting the parents of
r pupils to informal evenings in
r homes where the work of the
rch school was discussed and
need for more workers in the
ing year was stressed. The
ister cooperated by building a
vice around the theme of stew-
ship of time and talents. Letters
e sent by the board to a selected
up of people inviting them to
the staff and offering them a
t course in teacher training to
held on Sunday mornings for six
weeks. The first Sunday morning fifteen men and women met in the church library to prepare themselves for teaching in the fall. The theme of the course was, "The Bible in Christian Education." The class was taught by the Director of Christian Education.

Many of these and other people who later joined the class made teaching commitments, and we are well on our way to having a strong group of teachers for the coming year. There will be another leadership training course this fall for old and new teachers and a carefully planned reading program.

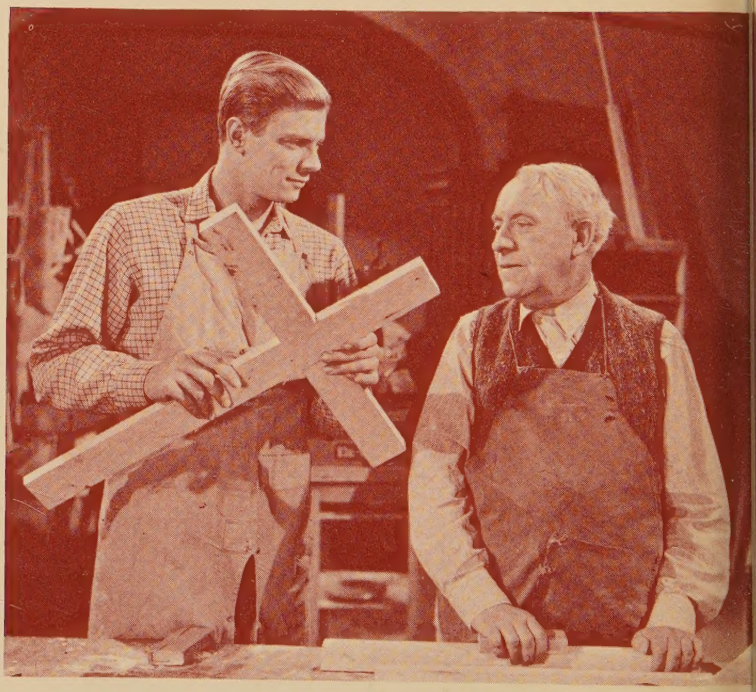
Do you need teachers? Let your people know your needs and then give them adequate training to do the job. It brings results.

A group of prospective teachers meet for training course in library of Fauntleroy Church.

See

MORE *for* PEACE

An Important New Film



Continuing an outstanding series produced by our church, for our church—MORE FOR PEACE is about the church—what its fellowship means—what the church can do—in the community and in the world.

An inspired story—acclaimed the most timely in the series of feature films released by our denomination. It is the religious screen at its best.

Free to Congregational Christian Churches—place your request with the Audio Visual Center, 1205 North 45th, Seattle, Washington.

Offices of the

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720 Fourteenth Avenue, North
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